

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-31 (Cancelled).

32. (New) A chip card contact module comprising:

a chamber for receiving a chip card, the chip card having a contact pad for providing access to data stored on the chip card;

a card input slot for accessing the chamber; and

a set of contacts within the chamber for contacting the contact pad of a chip card inserted in the chamber;

the chip card contact module further comprising a plurality of conductors, each conductor leading away from a respective contact within the chamber to enable connection of the contacts to circuitry for processing data accessed from a chip card, wherein none of said conductors leads from a contact towards the card input slot.

33. (New) A chip card contact module according to claim 32, wherein the contacts are arranged in two rows comprising a front row and a back row, the front row being nearer the card input slot than the back row.

34. (New) A chip card contact module according to claim 33, wherein the conductors from the back row lead directly away from the card input slot and the conductors from the front row diverge and then lead directly away from the card input slot.

35. (New) A chip card contact module according to claim 32, wherein the conductors extend to the exterior of the card contact module, the exterior portions of the conductors being located at the opposite side of the card contact module to the card input slot.

36. (New) An apparatus including a chip card contact module according to claim 32, the apparatus comprising an anti-tamper enclosure including an aperture aligned with the card input slot of the chip card contact module, the aperture being configured to allow insertion of an electronic card and the anti-tamper enclosure further including at least one embedded tamper detection conductor path for detection of widening of the aperture.

37. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the anti-tamper enclosure is provided as a rigid structure.

38. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the aperture is configured for endways insertion of an electronic card.

39. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the conductive path or paths extend across the whole of the enclosure such that cutting through the enclosure without breaking or grounding an embedded conductive path is substantially impracticable.

40. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the conductive path or paths are arranged in a plurality of layers such that conductors in different layers are offset relative to each other.

41. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, where the enclosure is assembled from a plurality of printed circuit boards.

42. (New) An apparatus according to claim 41, wherein a plurality of said printed circuit boards are electrically connected.

43. (New) An apparatus according to claim 41, wherein a plurality of said printed circuit boards are connected by an interlocking mechanical joint.

44. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the chip card contact module serves as an anti-probing barrier behind the aperture preventing access to an electronic circuit.
45. (New) An apparatus according to claim 44, wherein the electronic circuit comprises means for feeding current through each conductive path and detecting disturbances thereof.
46. (New) An apparatus according to claim 44, wherein the electronic circuit comprises a multi-layer printed circuit board having a first face on which components are mounted and a second face on which no components are mounted.
47. (New) An apparatus according to claim 46, wherein the conductors carrying signals between said components are separated from the second face by a tamper detection conductive path.
48. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the apparatus comprises a card reader.
49. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the aperture comprises a slot.
50. (New) A chip card reader comprising a chip card contact module according to claim 32.